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THE EAGLE

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE • THE CANTON EAGLE • THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR • THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE • THE ROMULUS ROMAN • THE WAYNE EAGLE • THE WESTLAND EAGLE

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE
Vol. 137, No. 18

Sumpter trustees agreed to delay a resolution supporting the Conference of Western Wayne protest of a water rate increase from the Great Lakes Water Authority.
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The efforts of the Canton Township Clerk's office to improve accessibility for voters with disabilities were recently honored by a national group.
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Inkster is among the area communities which will changes in voting districts for the state House and Senate boundaries.
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THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
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Northville Board of Education member Suzanne Lynn announced her resignation, effective immediately, at the regular meeting of the board April 26.
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THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE
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An offender on probation for similar offenses has been arraigned on charges that he placed a camera in a Plymouth gym to view women using the tanning bed.
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Members of the Romulus City Council agreed to lease 10,000 square feet of the former 34th District Court building to the Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency.
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THE WAYNE EAGLE
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A crowd of volunteers helped make Clean-up Day in the City of Wayne a successful and popular event last week.
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THE WESTLAND EAGLE
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A site plan for 35 attached ranch homes and a facility which includes a Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly was recently approved by the city council.
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Racial posters found at Plymouth Canton campus

> *Honestly, when I heard what was on the video, I wasn't shocked...*

Two racially-based incidents recently reported in the Plymouth-Canton schools did not surprise some students or parents in the district.

During a meeting of the members of the board of education last month, Black Student Union President Jacob Jackson said the recent posting of a racially threatening video on social media was not a surprise to him or other Black students. He told the school board members that there is a climate of racial taunts prevalent in the schools that is often experienced by Black students.

"Honestly, when I heard what was on the video, I wasn't shocked because we experience things like this all the time," Jackson told the board members. He said he has heard white students laughing at the racist message of hate on the video and that the atmosphere was "scary" and that change was needed.

Since the video, created and posted by a district student was discovered, three racially biased and threatening posters have been found in the high schools.

District Superintendent Monica Merritt and administrators took swift action following the discovery of the video including reporting the action to the Canton Police Department where an investigation took place. Merritt also sent a district-wide letter to parents informing them of the school policies which do not tolerate such actions. As the student who allegedly made the threatening video is a minor, police and school officials are prohibited from releasing the identity of the individual responsible for the video. Merritt said the discovery of the racially-biased posters has also been reported to police and that the issue is being handled in accordance with the district policy regarding such situations. She said police discovered the individuals responsible for the posters within 48 hours of the report and that the appropriate action was being pursued. The identity of these students is also protected by state law due to their ages.

Parents expressed their concern about the student who made threats of lynching and used the N-word on the video remaining in classes along with their children. One parent initiated an online petition demanding district officials address racism and intolerance more aggressively. Nearly 500 signatures have been reported on the petition to date. The parent told the board members that her son had been called the N-word on his 10th birthday and her daughter being excluded from

See **Schools,** page 4

Fixing the damn roads…

Governor pays visit to I-75 construction site in Canton Township

Governor Gretchen Whitmer joined staff from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) to tour a road construction project in Canton Township last week, following an announcement that the proposed Ford Road reconstruction in the township will not begin until 2024. The project, originally scheduled to be complete in 2020 by Michigan Department of Transportation officials during a community Forum April 26 at the Summit on the Park.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer speaks with workers at the I-75 road construction site in Canton Township.

The governor visited the active construction site where US 12 meets I-275 in Wayne County, which is a heavily traveled corridor that provides access to Detroit Metropolitan Airport in Romulus. The state has approved a $270 million investment to fix 24 miles of highway between Will Carleton Road and Six Mile Road, including 65 bridges and 10 interchanges. The repair project will support 3,249 jobs.

The long-delayed Ford Road boulevard project is not included in those projects and according to Tetra Tech Inc. Project Manager Jayson Nault, a schedule of the Ford Road work was never finalized. He told the audience at the community forum that the project is still in the design process. Adam Penzenstadler, projects and contracts administration engineer with MDOT, said the project was "about halfway" through the design process and that the design was "figured out". He told the audience that the state was still seeking input from residents.

The planned reconstruction will include Ford Road from I-275 to Sheldon Road and a short distance on Haggerty Road both north and south of Ford Road.

"Crashes on Ford Road far exceed the number of crashes on other roadways in the region," Petzenstadler said and suggested the planned elimination of direct left turns along the reconstructed stretch should reduce vehicle accidents. He added that at least one lane of traffic will be open on both east- and west-bound Ford throughout the construction process, which is expected to run through 2025 and include an 18-foot wide boulevard. The boulevard in the Haggerty Road section of the project is now designed at 40-feet in width.

The project will require the purchase of property along the proposed site of reconstruction and Penzenstadler said that acquisition is ongoing. Current plans also include a retention pond north of Ford Road and east of Haggerty of alleviate flooding, he said.

While the Ford Road project may be delayed, Whitmer said there has been ongoing road construction during the past several years.

"Since 2019, Michigan has fixed over 13,000 lane miles of road and over 900 bridges, supporting nearly 82,000 jobs," said Whitmer. "In my time in office, we will have invested 70 percent more in our roads than the previous four years. We have been fixing our roads with the right mix and materials, so they stay fixed."

Westland mourns death of Henry 'Hank' Johnson

The Westland community is mourning the death of Henry "Hank" Johnson, a Norwayne community activist awarded numerous honors for his dedication to the area.

Henry "Hank" Johnson

Mr. Johnson, 70, died in Ann Arbor May 1.

He was born Aug. 10, 1951 in Detroit, the son of Henry O. and Rose A. Johnson, who preceded him death. The family moved to the home on Ogemaw Court in Norwayne in 1952 and the family has owned the property for 70 years.

Mr. Johnson's involvement in the Norwayne community during his life has been the catalyst for compassion and stabilization efforts. In 1969, Westland Mayor Eugene McKinney appointed Mr. Johnson as co-chair of the Mayor's Task Force on Norwayne tasked with working to improve the development of the community.

In 1997, Mr. Johnson was enrolled in the Governor's Hall of Fame for his outstanding service. He was also a recipient of Congressman John Conyers' Social Justice Award and was named Michigan Democratic Party Precinct Delegate of the Year.

In 2010, Mr. Johnson restarted the Norwayne Community Citizens Council designed to encourage "community" within the Norwayne subdivision through beautification programs, literacy programs, distributing school supplies, supporting or creating recreational programs, and more. In 2015, he was named Westland Citizen of the Year for his work on behalf of the Norwayne Historic District. The Lincoln-Johnson Field was dedicated in his honor at the site of the former Lincoln Elementary School in 2018.

In addition to the Norwayne Historic District activities, Mr. Johnson also had a passion for helping children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. He worked for the ARC Detroit where he dedicated his life to advocating for people with disabilities. In 1995, he was awarded Employee of the Year by the United Church of Christ for his work on behalf of adults with developmental disabilities through the Evangelical Community Homes of Michigan.

Mr. Johnson also volunteered with the Westland Community Development Block Grant Advisory Board, Westland Rehabilitation Review Board,

See **Johnson,** page 6

Sumpter

On tap
Trustees delay resolution supporting water protest

Sumpter Township Trustees agreed to delay a resolution supporting the Conference of Western Wayne action protesting a water assessment and increase from the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA).

Deputy Supervisor and township Trustee Tim Rush said while there are currently 18, "soon to be 19" communities supporting the protest of the recent water fees, there was an issue regarding determining the exact amount the township should demand be refunded.

The controversy was sparked in March when communities discovered that the proposed 3.7 percent water and 2.4 percent sewer rate increases were due to the non-payment by Highland Park of $54 million in water service. Highland Park, according to Conference of Western Wayne sources, did not pay fees for water service provided by GLWA and that deficit was being passed on to the other communities in the rate hike. Members of the Conference of Western Wayne, including Sumpter Township, are demanding to be held harmless for the Highland Park bad debt and are seeking reimbursement of about $14 million already paid to cover Highland Park fees.

Members of the Wayne County Commission are expected to take action regarding the proposed increase in water rate costs by GLWA at their April 12 meeting. Officials from GLWA have sent a letter to Gov. Gretchen Whitmer asking the state to intervene in the controversy. In response, Whitmer's office sent a letter suggesting all the affected parties "work together" to find a resolution.

Sumpter officials agreed to delay the matter until the next scheduled meeting to see if more information would be forthcoming from the state or the Wayne County Commission.

Rush suggested that there were already communities involved in the dispute who were placing payment funds in escrow rather than sending them to GLWA. "We want reimbursement," Rush said, "which is a significant amount of money we have been assessed."

"We support the Conference of Western Wayne position," noted Trustee Matt Oddy, "but we need to deal with the exact amount in dispute." He said he agreed with Rush's suggestion to move the resolution of support to the next meeting when more information might be available regarding the dispute.

"Maybe the state will step in before it gets to that point," he said.

Great Lakes Water Authority plant in Detroit.

Board members approve police millage language

Members of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees approved the language to place two renewals of current police millages on the Aug. 3 primary election ballot.

Trustees said the millages are needed to continue to fund the police department and provide the level of service residents have experienced during the past years. Both the 2-mill levy and the 1-mill request will remain in effect for 4 years if approved by voters.

Trustee and Deputy Supervisor Tim Rush stressed during the meeting that the millages were not new taxes or a tax increase but that they were a renewal of existing rates. In the absence of Treasurer Vincent Warren due to a death in his family, the board members approved the language for both questions with Trustee Peggy Morgan casting the lone no vote on each question.

Morgan also cast the lone no vote on a salary increase for Department of Public Works Director John Danci, based on his recent performance evaluation performed by Rush and Township Supervisor Tim Bowman.

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Sumpter Township
Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 12, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
23480 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111
Minutes

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Bowman at 7:12 pm. Roll call: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Also showing present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Burdick, Finance Director Holtz, Public Safety Director/ Chief of Police Luke, Fire Chief Brown, DPW Director Danci and 14 attendees.

*Note: A moment of silence for Mr. James Posegay, who recently passed away on April 12th, 2022, in recognition of his 30-plus years of dedication and service with the Sumpter Township Parks & Recreation Commission.

3. Agenda: Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to approve the Agenda with the following edits;
ADD:
- New Business, Agenda Item K.
  "*Consider approval to repair the Ordinance Vehicle at an amount not to exceed $5327.00.*"
- New Business, Agenda Item L.
  "Consider approval to have the Treasurer's Office investigate unclaimed property with the State of Michigan."
- New Business, Agenda Item M.
  "Consider approval of the contract for Mr. Darwin McClary"

REMOVE:
- New Business, Agenda Item J.

TABLE:
- New Business, Agenda Item H.

Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush, Morgan and LaPorte. Nay: None. Motion carried.

4. Public Comments: One (1) Attendees spoke.

5. Minutes:
Motion by Hurst, supported by Rush to approve/accept all Meeting Minutes as follows;
- Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2022
- Hiring Committee Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2022
- Hiring Committee Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2022
- Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting Minutes of April 1, 2021
- Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of January 19, 2022

Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush, Morgan and LaPorte. Nay: None. Motion carried.

6. Warrants:
Motion by Hurst, supported by Oddy to approve the following warrants actions;
A. Amended Warrants, approved March 22, 2022 of $838,420.20. Restate approval to $840,461.63, less credit received March 23, 2022 of $2,041.43 (Vendor: Core & Main).
B. Approve Warrants totaling: $389,799.64

Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush, Morgan and LaPorte. Nay: None. Motion carried.

7. Supervisor's Report - Bowman:
- In observation of Good Friday, April 15th, the Township Hall will be closed. May everyone have a safe and Blessed Easter.
- Forgotten Harvest had a record-breaking household count of 116 on Monday, March 28th. Our Volunteers made sure that no family left without something. Hats off to all our volunteers!
- Requested motions to consider approval to entertain bids on the following items;

A. Supervisor's office entry area to have counter & desk redesigned for adequate security purposes.
B. Installation of ramp to gain access to the Board table.

Motion by Rush, supported by LaPorte to approve the Supervisor's report and receive bids for project items identified (A & B above). Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush, Morgan and LaPorte. Nay: None. Motion carried.

8. Attorney's Report - Young:
Motion by LaPorte, supported by Oddy to receive & file the Attorney's report. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush, Morgan and LaPorte. Nay: None. Motion carried.

9. Police/Ordinance Report - Chief Luke:
- Chief Luke advised that the "radar signs" are currently located on Savage Rd. They indicate that Sumpter Township does not have a measurable speeding issue. These make drivers more aware of their speed.

Motion by Rush supported by Oddy to approve the Police & Ordinance Report. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush, Morgan and LaPorte. Nay: None. Motion carried.

10. Building Report - Bowman:
Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to receive and file the Building report. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush, Morgan and LaPorte. Nay: None. Motion carried.

11. Fire Report - Chief Brown:
Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve the Fire Report. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush, Morgan and LaPorte. Nay: None. Motion carried.
*Note: Trustee Rush expressed a big "Thank You" to Chief Brown and Chief Luke for hosting the recent SkyWarn Training. Excellent job!
*Note: Trustee LaPorte wanted to thank our Public Safety Departments and employees for the excellent job they do every day. Many may not know this, but these dedicated professionals saved a life today in our Township. This shouldn't go unnoticed. Support the Millages that support the Professionals who support you! All on the Board agreed!

12. DPW Report - Danci
- A reminder to elected officials and residents that lead and copper testing is required by the state to be taken annually in June. This year we will be required to sample 30 locations. Please consider signing up as a test site if you haven't already.
- The Bio Air project is on schedule (Sumpter/Willis pump station). UMS will be finishing prep work in the coming weeks. Once completed we will determine a first available delivery date for the unit.
- We are actively looking for a seasonal part-time employee. Please pass along my contact information to any interested individuals or invite them to come by the DPW office during regular working hours.
- Our meter replacement program is back on track. When I hired in our meter stock was near zero and they were on a 10 -12-week delay. Please remind residents to review their water bills. If their current read line shows an "E" after the usage number, they are being estimated. When estimating we increase the usage each cycle to accommodate township costs.

Motion by Morgan, supported by Rush to approve the DPW Report. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush, Morgan and LaPorte. Nay: None. Motion carried.

13. Board Response:
- Trustee Morgan wanted to advise the residents that she disagrees wholeheartedly with the 3-minute Open Floor rule and the timeclock that is currently in effect. She supports the residents talking with the Board about the issues and she is not in favor. Other elected officials have been recalled due to issues like this.

14. New Business:

A. Motion by Rush, supported by LaPorte to approve to purchase (30) Unication G4 800Mhz dispatching pagers for the FD at a total cost of $21,858. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush, Morgan and LaPorte. Nay: None. Motion carried.

B. Motion by Morgan with no support to approve to appoint The Belleville Independent as the Sumpter Township Newspaper of Record (NOR), effective immediately. Motion failed.

C. Motion by Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve language to be added to Accounts Payable policy: **Board Post-Audit Authorized for Certain Claims Only:** The following types of claims may be paid by disbursements made prior to board audit and approval: 1. Utility bills 2. Invoices with penalties that would be incurred if payment is not received prior to the board meeting where claims will be approved. Any claims authorized under this policy prior to board approval shall be post-audited at the next board meeting. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush, Morgan and LaPorte. Nay: None. Motion carried.

D. Motion by Morgan, supported by LaPorte to approve to accept the Newsletter Editor's recommendation to produce the submitted Township Newsletter. Circular to be mailed out no later than May 2nd with printing and delivery costs not to exceed $4,500. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush, Morgan and LaPorte. Nay: None. Motion carried.

E. Motion by Rush, supported by LaPorte to approve to accept the recommendation to accept the bid from Diversified Excavating & Site Utilities in the amount of $129,368 for the site work on the Township Fairgrounds as detailed in the quote provided. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush and LaPorte. Nay: Trustee Morgan. Motion carried.

F. Motion by Rush, supported by LaPorte to approve of the recommendation to accept bid from Roberto Sanchez in the amount of $100,000 for the Township owned property located on Arkona Rd., Tax ID: 81-108-99-0001-001, with an expected project initiation no later than April 1, 2023. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Rush. Nay: Trustee Oddy, Morgan and LaPorte. Motion carried.

G. Motion by Rush, supported by Bowman to approve of the recommendation to accept bid from Jacob Losen in the amount of $80,000 for the Township owned property located on Martinsville Rd., Tax ID: 81-108-99-0006-001, with an expected project initiation no later than April 1, 2023. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Rush. Nay: Trustee Oddy, Morgan and LaPorte. Motion carried.

H. **TABLED UNTIL April 26, 2022** to approve of Resolution # 2022-03 supporting the action taken by Conference of Western Wayne (CWW).

I. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to approve of the migration of ADP to BS&A Payroll Platform Module at a project initiation cost not to exceed $14,300 effective 4/18/2022. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush and LaPorte. Nay: Trustee Morgan. Motion carried.

J. ~~Consider approval to establish the full-time Deputy Supervisor position with a pay rate of $27.00 per hour with same Benefits as provided to the other 2 deputies for statutory and non-statutory duties to be directed by the Supervisor.~~

K. Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to approve to repair the Ordinance Vehicle at an amount not to exceed $5,327. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush and LaPorte. Nay: Trustee Morgan. Motion carried.

L. Motion by Morgan, supported by Rush to approve to have the Treasurer's Office investigate unclaimed property with the State of Michigan. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush, Morgan and LaPorte. Nay: None. Motion carried.

M. Motion by Oddy, supported by Bowman to approve of the contract for Mr. Darwin McClary. Roll call vote: Yes: None. Nay: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren, Trustees; Oddy, Rush, Morgan and LaPorte. Motion failed.

15. Announcements:
- Dawn Hadyniak has been assigned to the full-time responsibilities of Payroll Clerk / Elections Clerk, reporting to the Clerk's Office, at her current AFSCME rate of pay. Congratulations, Dawn!
- Election Workers are always needed and this year is no exception! Please see the Clerk's Office for further information.
- The State Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, August 2, 2022.
- Due to the State Redistricting and the loss of the Precinct 2 Moose Lodge Polling location, the Clerk's Office will be mailing new Voter ID Cards to ALL Voters over the next several weeks advising of their new Polling Location.

16. Adjournment; Motion by Rush, supported by Morgan to adjourn at 7:55 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes prepared by;
Anthony Burdick, Deputy Clerk
Sumpter Township

_____ _____
Esther Hurst, Clerk Date

_____ _____
Timothy Bowman, Supervisor Date

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ROMULUS

Rest in peace

Cemetery board members plan clean-up of holiday mementos

The history of a community lives in cemeteries as Romulus Memorial Cemetery Board member Jan Lemon reminded city officials during the April 25 regular council meeting.

"The Romulus Memorial Cemetery has more history than any community around us," she told the members of the council. "In the 13 years of the cemetery board, our cemetery is immaculate and that couldn't be done without the cooperation of the council."

Lemon told the council members that she was deeply concerned when she read a disturbing article in a local newspaper about the desperate condition of Hillside Cemetery in Belleville where, Lemon said, city officials there "even suggested sending a letter to the loved ones and survivors asking them to pay fees to operate the cemetery" which is in a deficit financial condition.

The Romulus cemetery is managed by a city-appointed board of directors which has continued to make improvements over the years, including a set of approved regulations for items left at graves. "The rules were designed to ensure everybody is treated equally," she said. Those rules dictate the removal of all floral arrangements including wreaths and grave blankets by April 1 and the planting of flowers at graves. Flowers planted outside the designated area will be removed and the maintenance of the plants is the responsibility of the individuals doing the planting.

Lemon also reminded the city council members that a clean-up of items left at gravesites during the Easter holiday was planned. "We will be in there next week cleaning it up,"

Prohibited items at the gravesites include holiday and Halloween decorations, yard ornaments, balloons, figurines, wind chimes, lanterns, solar lights and shepherd hooks. Those items will be removed and discarded as will picket fences, decorative rocks, trees, shrubbery, and vegetable plants.

City to lease a portion of former court building

Romulus residents will soon see a new neighbor, one that will provide a multitude of services to the community.

Members of the Romulus City Council agreed to lease 10,000 square feet of the former 34th District Court building to the Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency beginning May 21. Mayor Robert McCraight made the request for approval of the one-year lease of the court building at 11131 South Wayne Road during the April 25 regular meeting of the council members.

McCraight told the council members that he felt the lease would be a good fit for the community and would make multiple community services available to Romulus residents.

"They've ballooned in size due to the grant opportunities," McCraight explained of the agency which provides covert emergency rental assistance, property tax assistance, food support, emergency assistance programs and water remittance help for residents. "So a lot of good opportunities available for our residents and for Wayne Metro," he added.

Councilwoman Virginia Williams was opposed to the lease of the building and said she would prefer to explore ways to move the city police department into the building. She said she understood that was part of the plan when the new courthouse was approved.

> *"I believe it is a good plan to get some revenue from a vacant building..."*

"What happened with that?" she asked.

McCraight responded that moving the police department into the former court building remained the goal of the city but that the city was "still working on funding award approval of grant applications to rebuild our police department. If we are fortunate enough to get grants, phase two would be to move our police department over there. That's why this is only a one-year lease," he explained. The agency would occupy the western portion of the former court building in an area that can be easily separated from the remainder of the space.

The community action agency will pay $4,166 per month for the portion of the building their staff will use for a total of $50,000 over the term of the lease, McCraight said. The agency will pay a prorated portion of any utilities that cannot be individually metered or calculated. "I believe it is a good plan to get some revenue from a vacant building and provide services for our residents," McCraight said.

"I would prefer to wait and get our police department in there rather than going with these leases with the Wayne Metro or anyone else," Williams said."

Williams cast the lone no vote on the motion to approve the community service agency lease with the city.

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Friendly Reassurance
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Friendly Reassurance is a **FREE** program for HOMEBOUND seniors who are aged 60 years and up!

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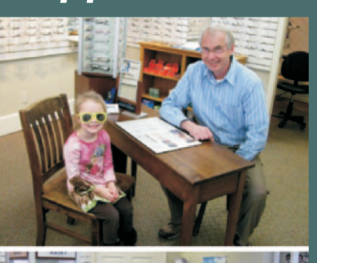

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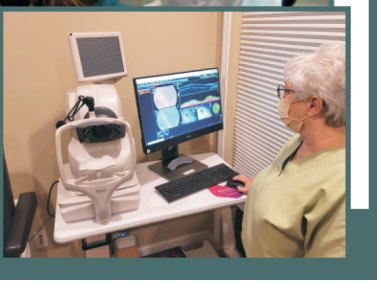

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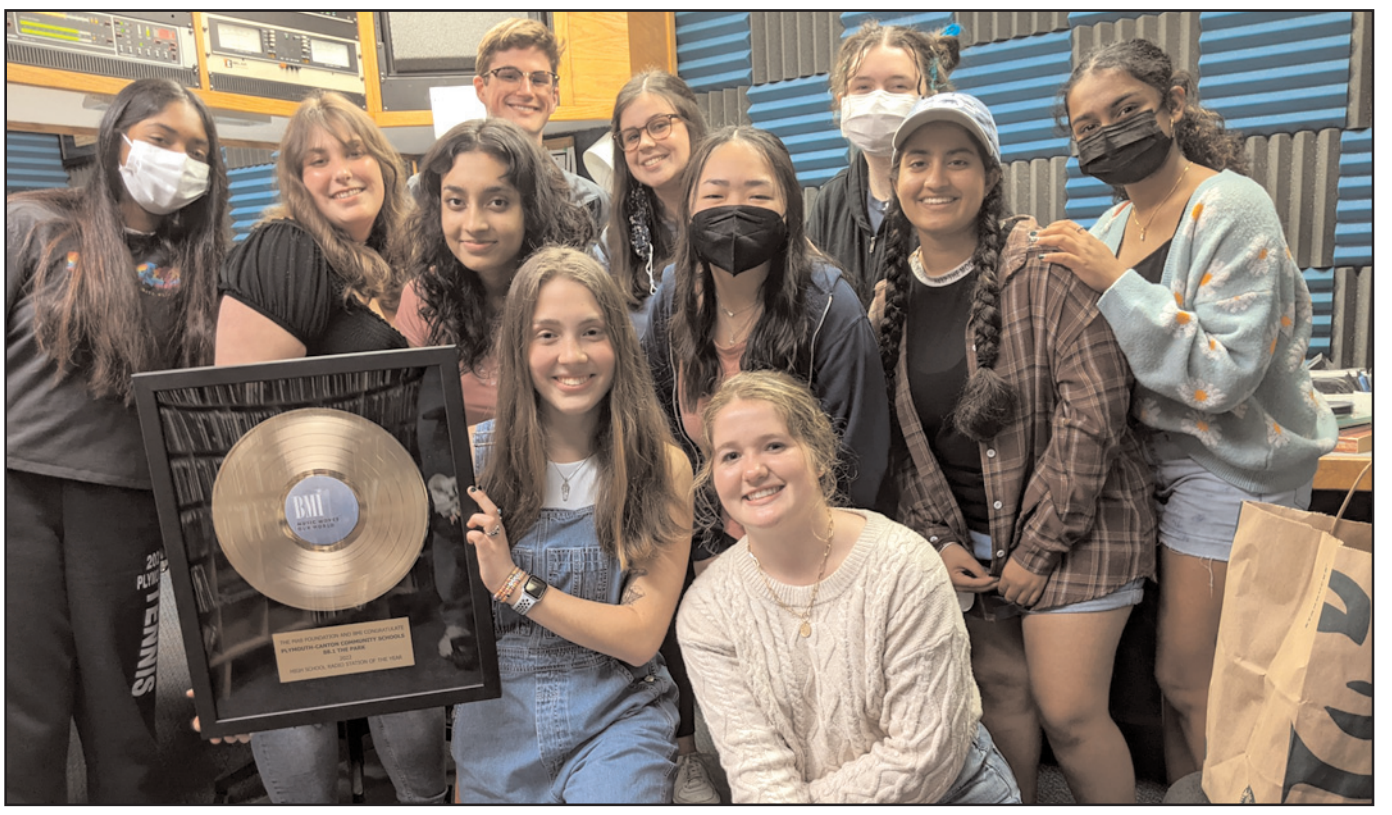
Canton - Plymouth

Top of the charts

The Plymouth Canton student radio station, 88.1 the Park, has been named the 2022 Michigan Association of Broadcasters Foundation High School Station of the Year. This is the fifth consecutive year the station has been honored with the award. The student-operated station received 12 individual awards in nine categories. The student award winners were: Current Events Story second place - Daniel Schoenherr, honorable mention - Ben Vertin; Daily Newscast/News Feature first place - Daniel Schoenherr, Caroline Rummel and Andy McLaren, second place - Mady Bajorek and Ben Vertin; On-Air Personality or Team honorable mention - Anuya Shetty and Avneet Pandher; Promotional Announcement first place Daniel Schoenherr and Lily Mahnken, honorable mention - Emma Johnston; Sports Announcing Team second place Ben Vertin and Andy McLaren; Talk Show honorable mention - Daniel Schoenherr; Multimedia Presentation first place - Emma Johnston, Evie Cadotte and Mady Bajorek; Sports Public Service Announcement first place - Ben Vertin and second place - Daniel Schoenherr, Ariel Ooms and Lilly Betts.



Canton clerk's office wins national honor

The efforts of the Canton Township Clerk's office to improve accessibility for voters with disabilities were recently honored by a national group.

The clerk's office was awarded an honorable mention from the Clearing House Awards for a proposed plan to improve accessibility for voters with special needs.

The Clearinghouse Awards, also known as the "Clearie" awards, are presented annually across the U.S. for best practices in election administration by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC). Established by the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), the EAC is charged with serving as a clearinghouse for election administration information. To further this mission, the EAC launched the Clearies in 2016 to promote best practices in elections and celebrate the accomplishments of election officials, according to the organization website.

The Canton clerk's office was recognized for the data driven election program. Canton officials have proposed a data-driven election research program wherein volunteers will conduct exit polls at voting centers.

Volunteers will administer a survey to participants, using tablets, mobile devices, or laptops to collect general information about the voter's experience. Staff in the clerk's office will then quantify data regarding election wait times, accessibility, language accommodations, and other metrics to drive further innovation. A link will be distributed via social media so that voters can also relay their experience with mail voting and the findings summarized in a public report.

Probationer charged in Plymouth gym peeping

An offender on probation for similar offenses has been arraigned on charges that he placed a camera in a Plymouth gym to view women using the tanning bed.

Brian Michael Maciborski, 40, is charged with placing the camera Feb. 23 at Planet Fitness on Main Street in Plymouth to record a 24-year-old Westland woman.

Maciborski, of Shelby Township, is accused of violating his probation sentence issued last August in a similar incident. That matter is scheduled for a May 18 hearing in Macomb County Circuit Court. In that incident, Maciborski was charged with hiding cameras at a Shelby Township tanning salon. An off-duty police officer found a camera hidden in the wall of a tanning room and investigators subsequently found three more cameras Maciborski allegedly hid in tanning rooms. He was also convicted in 2006 for eavesdropping and sentenced to two years probation in that instance.

Maciborski was arraigned on the latest incident in 35th District Court in Plymouth on multiple felony charges. His bond was set at $100,000 and a probable cause conference on the charges was set for last week.A2:07

Schools

FROM PAGE 1

playing with a classmate because of her skin color.

A forum to discuss both the video and the posters is planned for 6 p.m. May 11 at Discovery Middle School in Canton. The district has also implemented an online form for students to report incidents of hate or racial bias in the schools. There is also an accessible QR code students can use posted in classrooms and hallways. Reports can be submitted anonymously or with contact information, officials said.

"At P-CCS, we do not tolerate acts of hate or bigotry within our schools," Merritt said in a second letter to parents following the discovery of the posters. "Only by working together will we be able to eradicate these types of incidents across our communities. Thus, I would urge (parents of district students) to continue to have an open dialogue with your children about the importance of fostering an inclusive environment where all are welcome. If your student experiences or witnesses anything of discriminatory nature, please have them reach out to a school administrator, counselor or trusted school personnel."

Sumpter Township
Special Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 12, 2022, 5:30 p.m.
23480 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111
Minutes

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Bowman at 5:30 pm. Roll call: Supervisor T. Bowman, Treasurer V. Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Clerk E. Hurst excused. Also showing present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Burdick, Finance Director Holtz, Public Safety Director/ Chief of Police Luke and 2 attendees.

5. New Business:

A. Closed Session;
Pursuant to MCL 15.268(h) to consider attorney-client privileged material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal law; Update on FOP & AFSCME.

Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to move into Closed Session at 5:32 pm. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

*Clerk E. Hurst joined the Closed Session at 5:32 pm.
Motion by Bowman, supported by Rush to rejoin the open meeting at 6:04 pm and to direct the Township Attorney to take actions on the discussed items during the Closed Session. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

6. Adjournment: Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to adjourn at 6:06 pm. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by,
Anthony Burdick, Deputy Clerk
Sumpter Township

Esther Hurst, Clerk _____ Date _____

Timothy Bowman, Supervisor _____ Date _____

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Sumpter Township
Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 22, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
23480 Sumpter Rd.,
Belleville, MI 48111 Minutes

Meeting called to order by Supervisor T. Bowman at 7:08 pm. Roll call: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer V. Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Also showing present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Burdick, Public Safety Director/ Chief of Police Luke, Fire Chief Brown, DPW Director Danci and 8 attendees.

3. Agenda: Motion by Bowman, supported by Morgan to approve the Agenda with the following amendments;
ADD: New Business, Item H.
"Consider approval to begin migration from ADP to BS&A Payroll Module targeting for implementation end of month June, 2022 not to exceed $9,500.00 to update the township BS&A plat form and provide on-site training services."
New Business, Item I.
"Consider accepting the Hiring Committee's recommendation for Mr. Darwin McClary as Sumpter Township Administrator and direct Township Attorney to draft a One- year, at will employment agreement for $90,000.00. per year with traditional benefits"
Closed Session, Item 3.A.
"Pursuant to MCL 15.268(h) to consider attorney-client privileged material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal law; Update on FOP".
MODIFY: New Business, Item G.
Add "& optional coverage selections", Correct "effective 4/1/2022", Replace $117,229 with "$118,041".
Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: Trustee Oddy. Motion carried.

3. A. Closed Session;
Pursuant to MCL 15.268(h) to consider attorney-client privileged material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal law; Update on FOP.

Motion by Rush, supported by Morgan to move into Closed Session at 7:14 pm. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.
Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to rejoin the open meeting at 7:31 pm and direct the Township Attorney to take actions on the discussed items during the Closed Session. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment/Open Floor: One (1) spoke.

* DPW Director Danci - Provided updates on the DPW functions. GLWA was performing routine maintenance on water mains/volves and "low pressure" resulted in a number of calls to the Township. Pressure never dropped to an alert status and all was corrected. DPW is still sourcing for a seasonal, part-time worker. Also discussed communicating a seasonal plan for the department with increased services.

5. Minutes:
A. Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 8, 2022. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.
B. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to approve 2022-2023 Operating Budget Public Hearing Minutes of March 8, 2022. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.
C. Motion by Morgan, supported by Rush to accept the Hiring Committee Meeting Minutes of February 28, 2022. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

6. Warrants:
Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve the warrants totaling $838,420.20. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

7. Receive & File;
Motion by Morgan, supported by Bowman to receive, file and accept all of the following reports;
- Parks & Recreation/Chambers Report - Rush
  - Family Fun Day plans are being made
  - Free Fishing coming for June. Plans on refurbishing the dock at Banotai Park
  - The Easter Eggs event for the Kids is coming April 9, 2022 at 12:00 noon…..and Trustee Rush will be wearing the Bunny Suit!
- Water & Sewer Report - Warren
- Treasurer's Report - Warren
- Planning & Zoning Report - Oddy
- Seniors Report - Hurst

Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

8. Board Response:
- Trustee LaPorte asked that John Enos, Community Planner, give an update on the Site Plan for Zino's Restaurant and what the status is for this location. A formal response is requested.
- Trustee Rush announced that the 1st SkyWarn Training Session will be held at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at the Sumpter Township Fire Station #1 for 1st Responders and our residents.
- Trustee Oddy wanted to ensure that the Board fully approved of the proposed decentralized Accounts Payable plan before any actions were taken.

9. New Business:

A. Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to REMOVE to entertain any and all offers for the Township-owned property, Parcel # 82 81 016 99 0014 715, located on Sumpter Rd, Belleville, MI. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

B. Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve to adopt the Sumpter Township Operating Budget 2022-2023. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

C. Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to approve of 4th Quarter Budget adjustments. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

D. Motion by Morgan, supported by Rush to approve of Police Protection Millage language attached, identifying Renewal/Increases of 1 mill and Renewal/Increase of 2 mill, effective 2022, levied for 4 years. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

E. Motion by Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve to contract with Kennedy Industries to repair lift station pump for a total cost of $7,190. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

F. Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve to purchase inventory order from Core & Main totaling $15,367.67. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

G. Motion by Oddy, supported by Bowman to approve to accept the proposal from Burnham & Flower Insurance Group for Township Liability, Insurance & optional coverage selections effective 4/1/2022 at a cost of $118,041 annually. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

H. Motion by Hurst, supported by Bowman to approve to begin migration from ADP to BS&A Payroll Module targeting implementation end of month June, 2022 not to exceed $9,500.00 to update the township BS&A platform and provide on-site training services. Roll call vote: Yes: Clerk Hurst; Trustees: Rush, Morgan. Nay: Supervisor Bowman, Treasurer Warren; Trustees LaPorte, Oddy. Motion failed.

I. Motion by Rush, supported by Bowman to approve and accept the Hiring Committee's recommendation for Mr. Darwin McClary as Sumpter Township Administrator and direct Township Attorney to draft a standard one-year, at-will employment agreement for $90,000.00. per year with traditional benefits. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Treasurer Warren; Trustees: Rush, LaPorte. Nay: Clerk Hurst, Trustee Oddy. Trustee Morgan remained silent. Motion carried.

10. Announcements: None.

11. Adjournment; Motion by Rush, supported by Morgan to adjourn at 8:20 pm. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by,
Anthony Burdick, Deputy Clerk
Sumpter Township

Esther Hurst, Clerk _____ Date _____

Timothy Bowman, Supervisor _____ Date _____

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NORTHVILLE

Applications sought for school board vacancy

Northville Board of Education member Suzanne Lynn announced her resignation, effective immediately, at the regular meeting of the board members Tuesday, April 26. Lynn has served on the board since January 2019.

"I have served this community proudly and with integrity during one of the most challenging periods of our history. It has been a true honor to represent the Northville community and I am deeply grateful for your trust and belief in me and the wonderful relationships and friendships I've developed. While I had hoped to remain on the school board for the entirety of my term, I can no longer ignore the fact that I need to be geographically closer to my mother who is struggling with a debilitating health condition," Lynn said.

> *She has brought her best to her role and made us a better team in doing so.*

During her time in Northville, Lynn has become deeply ensconced in the community. She was commissioner on the Northville Youth Network and served on the Northville Educational Foundation Board of Directors. Lynn also co-chaired the Northville Public Schools Bond Study and Facilities Review Committee and served on the Bond Advocacy Committee that led to the successful approval of the $104.85 million bond that was used to upgrade and enhance school buildings and facilities in Northville. Most recently, she helped lead the board through an extensive superintendent search and selection process, fellow officials said.

Board President Sarah Prescott and board colleagues thanked Lynn for her service. "Ms. Lynn has led with and modeled professionalism, kindness, judgment, and integrity at all turns. She has brought her best to her role and made us a better team in doing so. She will be missed," Prescott said.

In the case of such a resignation, the board's by-laws require that remaining board of education members appoint a legally qualified individual to fill the vacancy. The appointee will serve on the board through Dec. 31, 2022, and may choose to run for election to the four-year term beginning in January 2023 in the next regular school board election in November 2022.

Northville school district residents interested in serving the remaining eight months are asked to complete the Board of Education Appointment Application, which can be found on the district website at www.northvilleschools.org. The deadline for applications is 4 p.m. Monday, May 9. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

Suzanne Lynn

Board of education members will interview candidates at a public meeting(s) to be scheduled between Tuesday, May 17 and Tuesday, May 24, with final approval by the board anticipated at the regular meeting on either May 17 or May 24. Specific dates, times and locations for candidate interviews, which are open to the public, will be announced as soon as they are available.

City seeking volunteers for boards, commissions

Volunteers willing to serve on several Northville city commissions are being sought by city officials.

Applications from qualified volunteers interested in being considered to serve on the Beautification Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Northville Youth Network, and Planning Commission are being accepted. The application is available on the city website. To be considered, applications must be submitted by May 13.

Following the deadline for applications, the city clerk will contact applicants to schedule interviews with the Board and Commission Selection Committee, comprising Mayor Brian Turnbull and Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Moroski-Browne. All applications will be kept on file for future consideration.

Among those seeking volunteer members are The Beautification Commission which is involved in various beautification projects throughout the city. Generally, meetings take place the first Monday of the month at 8:30 a.m., March through October. Applicants must reside within a 5-mile radius of Northville City Hall or have business interests in the City of Northville. More information is available on the city website.

The city is also seeking members for the Board of Zoning Appeals which carries out the provisions in Article 25 of the City of Northville Zoning Ordinance, and also considers other matters that the BZA is called upon to act under law or other ordinances. The board meets at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at city hall. Applicants must be registered to vote in the City of Northville. More information is available on the city website.

> *All applications will be kept on file for future consideration.*

Members are also sought for the Northville Youth Network Commission whose members act as an advisory board to the Northville Youth Network (NYN) programs and services, serve as a liaison between the community and the NYN program, and advocate for youth and families to governmental bodies in the city and township. Meetings take place at 8 a.m. on the second Tuesday of the month. This is a city resident position. Applicants must be a resident of the City of Northville (at least two years), a registered voter in the city, and have demonstrated tangible evidence of their interest in Northville youth.

Volunteers are also sought for the Planning Commission whose mission includes development of the master plan and updates, the review and approval of site plan developments and special land use requests, a review of all rezoning requests, and review and recommendation of changes to the Zoning Ordinance. Planning commission recommendations on certain decisions are then made to city council. Meetings take place at 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday of the month. Applicants must be a registered voter in the city of Northville. Information is available on the city website or by contacting City Manager Patrick Sullivan.

COMMUNITY SHRED DAY
EXPANDED!
Romulus
May 14, 2022
PAPER SHREDDING and
ELECTRONICS
RECYCLING
TWO TRUCKS...Paper Shredding
and Electronics Recycling
May 14, 2022
9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.
Romulus City Hall Complex
11111 Wayne Road
Romulus, MI 48174
This is a Drive-Thru event. Please pull up to the shred truck.
Staff will be directing traffic. Please stay in your vehicle and
an ElectroCycle employee will remove the boxes from your
vehicle, dump the documents or the recycling and return your boxes
to the vehicle.
There is a limit of 2 boxes per vehicle. The boxes should be
not larger than a standard Banker box (15"X12")
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE
CALL THE CLERK'S OFFICE AT
(734) 955-4542
See Back for Details...

Inkster - Wayne - Westland

Spring cleaning

A crowd of volunteers helped make Clean-up Day in the City of Wayne a successful and popular event last week. Shown are only a few of the crowd of volunteers including State Rep. Kevin Coleman, City Councilman Phillip Wagner, Councilwoman Kelly Skiff, and 29th District Court Judge Breeda O'Leary. The event was sponsored this year by the Rotary Club of Wayne, which sent multiple volunteers to the event, Harry J. Will Funeral Home, O'Leary, Pat Rice Re/Max, and Professional Insurance. City of Wayne Department of Public Works employees also helped the volunteers with the removal of trash and debris getting the city ready for spring.

City OK's new medical care facility for elderly

They are picking up the PACE in Westland where a site plan for 35 attached ranch homes and a facility which includes a Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) was recently approved by members of the city council.

The site plan includes property between the 23-acre site of the Presbyterian Village buildings on Cherry Hill Road and the city-owned Mack Mayfield golf course where the ranch homes will be constructed.

The proposed PACE facility will be constructed at a former TCF Bank building east of the new homes. Developers said the ranch homes will be designed for those who can still live on their own, without specialized care.

The PACE building, which will be operated in partnership with Henry Ford Health, will provide help to those on Medicare or Medicaid in finding or accessing medical care, prescriptions, home and hospital care. Officials from Presbyterian Village said the site should be open later this year and is a stopgap measure for individuals to safety delay moving into a nursing home by providing help in finding care.

There are currently 15 PACE facilities in the state, all outside the metropolitan area.

Kevin Petru, director of real estate development for Presbyterian Villages of Michigan told the council members that the new facility would be "an asset to the community. "We're looking forward to having it to help serve the needs of older adults," he said.

Johnson

FROM PAGE 1

Liberator Development Group (Community Housing Development Organization), and chaired the Wayne County Regional Interagency Coordinating Council, 2000-2010.

Mr. Johnson was a 1969 graduate of Wayne Memorial High School and attended the University of Michigan, and Wayne State University.

Among his survivors are his brothers, Gary (Andrea) Johnson and John (Elizabeth) Johnson; two sisters, Gloria Lehtinen and Susan (Douglas) Sano; 14 nieces and nephews; numerous great-nieces and nephews, and his beloved cat Patty Melt. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by brothers, Archie Sipe Jr., Dennis Sipe, James Sipe and Robert Sipe, and a sister, Patricia Sipe.

The celebration of Mr. Johnson's life will take place at noon Friday, May 6 at Uht Funeral Home at 35400 Glenwood St. in Westland. Interment will follow at Glenwood Cemetery, 33510 Glenwood St. in Wayne.

To honor his life and love of the University of Michigan, Mr. Johnson requested a Maize Out for his funeral. In lieu of flowers, he suggested donations to the Norwayne Community Citizens Council, 32150 Dorsey Road, Westland MI, 48186 or The ARC Detroit, 51 W. Hancock St., Detroit MI, 48201.

Inkster candidates' names to appear on primary ballot

Inkster is among the area communities which will changes in voting districts for the state House and Senate boundaries.

A portion of the City of Westland, along with a part of Inkster, Garden City and Romulus now falls into District 26. Democrats Steven Chisholm of Inkster, Stephen Patterson, also of Inkster, Dylan Wegela of Garden City and Allen Wilson of Romulus all filed for election seeking the term in the newly drawn 26th District.

They will be on the Aug. 2 primary ballot.

The August primary ballot will also determine the Democratic candidate for State Senate District 5 which includes Livonia, Canton Township, Inkster and Garden City.

Incumbent Sen Dayna Polehanki of Livonia is being challenged by fellow Democrat Velman Jean Overman on the primary ballot. Voters will choose from Republican candidates Emily Bauman of Westland, Jody Rice-White of Livonia and Leonard Scott, Jr. of Canton on the August ballot.

COVID 19
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE
STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS
Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.
Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.